

OFFICIAL**RECEIVED
CENTRAL FAX CENTER****SEP 23 2003**Docket No.: CG-730
Inventor: Branson et al.
Appl. No.: 09/852,071**REMARKS**

Reconsideration of the above referenced application is respectfully requested.

Applicant's attorney discussed the present application with the Examiner during a telephone interview on September 22, 2003. Per said interview, Applicant's attorney has cancelled claims 1-23 and after entry of the enclosed amendment, new claims 24-43 are pending and are believed to more particularly claim the present invention.

CONCLUSION

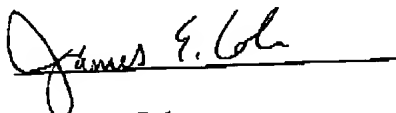
Applicants believe that the instant application is now in condition for allowance.

Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner allow the pending claims. However, if the Examiner believes there are other unresolved issues in this case, Applicants' attorney of record would appreciate a call at (502) 584-1135 to discuss such remaining issues.

DATE: 9/22/03

Respectfully submitted,

MIDDLETON REUTLINGER



James E. Cole
Reg. No. 50,530
2500 Brown & Williamson Tower
Louisville, Kentucky 40202
Direct Dial: (502) 625-2746
Fax: (502) 561-0442
jcole@middreut.com

Examiner Newhouse,

I have italicized the portions of the claims that I believe define over the prior art. The prior art appears to show tapered portions of closure threads located at thread ends. As amended I've claimed a ramped portion connecting first and second thread segments as being a radial distance from the first and second thread ends. Alternatively, the combination of the first and second thread segments may be thought of as defining a thickened thread portion, as claimed in claim 24. Please feel free to make any suggestions when we talk later.

IN THE CLAIMS

24. (new) A child resistant neck finish, comprising:

a first child resistant container neck having at least one locking lug adjacent a shoulder portion, at least one thread with a first segment having a first thickness and a second segment having a second thickness, *said first segment and said second segment connecting and defining an axially thickened portion, said axially thickened portion being a spaced distance from a first thread end and a second thread end and extending about said neck through a radial distance.*

25. (new) A thread for use with a child resistant container, comprising:

a neck having at least one locking lug extending from said neck;
at least one thread comprising a first segment and a second segment;

a ramped portion connecting said first segment and said second segment, said ramped portion being a preselected radial distance from a first thread end and a second thread end.

26. (new) The thread of Claim 25 wherein said thread is selected from a single helix, a double helix, a triple helix, a quad helix or a multiple helix.

27. (new) The thread of Claim 25, said at least one locking lug, fixedly attached near a shoulder section and having an axial height, and said thread positioned on said neck such that said first thread segment is disposed axially above said second thread segment on said neck.

28. (new) The thread of Claim 25, said second thread segment having an axial thickness being greater than an axial thickness of said first thread segment.

29. (new) The thread of claim 25, said first thread segment having an axial thickness being greater than an axial thickness of said second thread segment.

29. (new) A thread for use with a child resistant container, comprising:
a neck having at least one locking lug extending from said neck;
at least one thread comprising a first segment and a second segment;

a ramped portion connecting said first segment and said second thickened segment, said ramped portion being a preselected distance from a first thread end and a second thread end.

30. (new) The thread of claim 29, said first segment and said second segment having a constant pitch.

31. (new) The thread of claim 30, said pitch being not less than a locking lug axial height engagement multiplied by the number of locking lugs present on said neck.

32. (new) The thread of Claim 29, said second thread segment thickness being greater than said first thread segment thickness.
33. (new) The thread of Claim 29, said first thread segment thickness being greater than said second thread segment thickness.
34. (new) The thread of Claim 29 wherein said thread is selected from a single helix, a double helix, a triple helix, a quad helix or a multiple helix configuration.
35. (new) A child resistant closure and bottle combination comprising:
- a. a child resistant container having a neck and at least one container locking lug extending from said neck, a neck thread comprising a first segment and a second segment each helically extending along said neck, *a ramped portion defined where said first segment and said second segment merge, said ramped portion being a preselected distance from a first thread end and a second thread end and tapered between said first segment and said second segment;* ?
 - b. a child resistant closure having at least one closure locking lug defining an axial height and being adapted to matingly engage said container locking lug, and having a closure thread helically extending along an inner surface of said skirt adapted to matingly engage said neck thread and wherein said closure is displaced more rapidly when said component moves along said thickened portion.
36. The combination of claim 35, said first segment being a thickened portion disposed axially below said second segment.
37. The combination of claim 36, said first segment being a thickened portion disposed axially above said second segment.